



UtahPresents



Department of Theatre
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

nickelodeon.
THE
SPONGEBOB
MUSICAL.
youth
editi♦n

PERFORMED BY UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
YOUTH THEATRE

MARCH 8-9, 2024

UtahPresents and the Department of Theatre
present

NICKELODEON™

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL: YOUTH EDITION

Performed by Youth Theatre at the U

Based on the series by Stephen Hillenburg

Book by Kyle Jarrow

Musical Production Conceived by Tina Landau

Original Songs by Yolanda Adams, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry of
Aerosmith, Sara Bareilles, Jonathan Coulton, Alex Ebert of Edward
Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros, The Flaming Lips, Lady A, Cyndi
Lauper, John Legend, Panic! At the Disco, Plain White T's, They
Might Be Giants, T.I.

And Songs by David Bowie, Tom Kenny & Andy Paley

Additional Lyrics by Jonathan Coulton // Additional Music by
Tom Kitt

March 8 • 7:00PM

March 9 • 11:00AM

Kingsbury Hall

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This is a one-act show. The show is 1 hour and 10 minutes.

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL: YOUTH EDITION is presented
by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

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INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Utah has both historical and contemporary relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Given that the Salt Lake Valley has always been a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge that this land, which is named for the Ute Tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes and is a crossroad for Indigenous Peoples.

The University of Utah recognizes the enduring relationships between many Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands. We are grateful for the territory upon which we gather today; we respect Utah's Indigenous Peoples, the original stewards of this land; and we value the sovereign relationships that exist between tribal governments, state governments, and the federal government.

Today, approximately 60,000 American Indian and Alaska Native peoples live in Utah. As a state institution, the University of Utah is committed to serving Native communities throughout Utah in partnership with Native Nations and our Urban Indian communities through research, education, and community outreach activities.

PRODUCTION CREDITS**Director and Choreographer**

Penelope Caywood

Lighting Designer

Sara Clark

Assistant Director

Michelle Prince

Properties Designer

Maria Jensen

Associate Choreographer

Ella Mei Williamson

Makeup Designer

Zoe Seare

Musical Director

JT Kaufman

Stage Manager

Julia Witesman

CREW**Stage Manager**

Julia Witesman

Sound Board Operator

Michelle Prince

1st Assistant Stage Manager

Michael Davies

Props

Abriel Tuckness

2nd Assistant Stage Manager

Sierra Loertscher

Costumes

Allie Stubbs

Production Manager

Julia Witesman

Youth Supervisor

Jordan Peterson

Light Board Operator

Sara Clark

YOUTH THEATRE STAFF**Artistic Director**

Penelope Caywood

Office Assistant

Michelle Prince

School Outreach Teaching Artist

Matthew Tripp

AfterSchool Teaching Artist

Helena Goei

AfterSchool Teaching Artist

Bryce Romleski

AfterSchool Teaching Artist

Lauren Carn

AfterSchool Teaching Artist

Ella Mei Williamson

AfterSchool Teaching Artist

Michelle Prince

SPECIAL THANKS TO

We extend a huge thank you to Halee Rasmussen and Kyle Becker for their invaluable assistance with the set. Our gratitude to Julie Bartel for her dedication and hundreds of hours spent organizing costumes and props. Appreciation is due to the Youth Theatre Productions Course students (Abriel, Allie, and Jordan) for their assistance in all aspects, and to the Theatre for Young Audience Course students for their wonderful work in creating the study guide. Lastly, heartfelt thanks to all our family volunteers who have lent so much help this past week.

UTAHPRESENTS THANKS

R. HAROLD BURTON
FOUNDATION

FOR SPONSORING THESE PERFORMANCES OF
THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL

Welcome to the wonderful and whimsical world of Bikini Bottom!

As the curtain rises on our production of *The SpongeBob Musical: Youth Edition*, I am reminded of the power of theatre to transform the mundane into the extraordinary. Like many, I approached the idea of a musical based on a beloved animated series with a mix of curiosity and skepticism. It wasn't until I saw the show live this fall that I understood the magic of *SpongeBob's* story—a tale brimming with themes of friendship, community, and the belief that anyone, no matter how 'simple' they may seem, can make a monumental difference.

SpongeBob and his diverse group of friends embody the spirit of community and the strength that comes from banding together in the face of adversity. In our rehearsals, these themes of togetherness and mutual support have resonated deeply. Our cast, ranging from spirited 2nd graders to talented 12th graders, along with 14 dedicated University students, has created a microcosm of the world we want to see. The University students, in particular, have been instrumental in not only raising the bar for our production but also in serving as mentors and role models, embodying the very themes of friendship and leadership that this show celebrates.

This production stands as a testament to the growth and dedication of every individual involved. From the youngest cast members who are just beginning to explore their potential, to our graduating high school senior, Claire Mautz, whose effervescence and talent have graced our stage for years. Claire, your delightful presence has been a beacon of joy, and though we bid you farewell from this stage, we carry the light you've brought into our theatre community forward.

As we prepare to share this vibrant journey under the sea with you, we also look forward to the continued growth of our theatre family. Summer camp registration opens on March 11 at 8 am, promising new adventures and opportunities to foster the creativity and camaraderie that have made this production so rewarding.

Stay connected with us and follow the bubbles of excitement on Instagram @uuyouththeatre. Be a part of our ongoing story, and don't forget to share your moments with us!

So now, I invite you to immerse yourself in the depths of our oceanic tale. May you find laughter, joy, and a reminder of the enduring power of community and friendship.

Are you ready, kids? Let's dive into the pineapple under the sea and begin this unforgettable adventure!

Enjoy the show, and just as SpongeBob always says, "I'm ready!"

Penelope Caywood
Artistic Director





Jack Anderson	as	SpongeBob
Sloan Jordan	as	Gary the Snail
Alexa Shaheen	as	Sandy Cheeks
Talia Thorpe	as	Patrick
Lauren Carn	as	Squidward
Tyler Shaw	as	Mr. Krabs
Presley Caywood	as	Pearl
Althea Hedges	as	Krabby Patty
Harrison Timm	as	Sheldon J. Plankton
Laura Herscovici	as	Karen Plankton
Stella Ensor	as	Computer
Liesel DeWalt	as	French Narrator
Andy Lou	as	Larry the Lobster
Ryan Topf	as	Old Man Jenkins
Cameron Parke	as	Perch Perkins
Erin Dickes	as	Mayor of Bikini Bottom
Alice St Claire	as	Mayor's Child
Claire Mautz	as	Mrs. Puff
Morgan Schmutz	as	Sardine 1
Kendra Hall	as	Sardine 2
Nora Bartel	as	Sardine 3
Annie Mautz	as	Electric Skates 1
Samantha Cuallo	as	Electric Skates 2
Ella Mei Williamson	as	Electric Skates 3
Della Chalverus	as	BFF Trio
Isla Villar	as	BFF Trio
Finch (Lola) Black	as	BFF Trio
Viviene D. Davis	as	BFF Trio
Noah Engar	as	Stage Manager
Scarlet Hedges	as	Townsfish 1
Sam Yrungaray	as	Townsfish 2
Amelia Fehlberg	as	Townsfish 3
Ruby Wolter	as	Townfish and featured Sea Anemone Tapper
Aveline Sakrison	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish

Charles Scrivner	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Charlotte Machol	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Cherith Cumming	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Desmond Fehlberg	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Esme Rivkin	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Gretchen Henderson	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Juliette Bobick	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Kinsey Krongard	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Lila Shepard	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Link Vasquez	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Lua Birdwell	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Maya Nelson	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Oliver Williams	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Oscar Bateman-Rapier	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Ruby Woffinden	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Camilla Stewart	as	Jellyfish, Sponge, Cowboy Fish
Charlotte Holcombe	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Clementine Wilson-Eresuma	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Daisy Harris	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Desmond Steffens	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Elise Bobick	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Emily Chan	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Fern Gililand	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Harper Krongard	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Kate Averett	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Merida Vasquez	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Mila LaMalfa	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Molly Cunningham	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Roi Oren	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Ruby Butterworth-Wegner	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge
Will Baker	as	Bubble, Rock, Sponge

SONG LIST

Bikini Bottom Day	Full Cast
BFF	Spongebob, Patrick, BFF! Letters, and Bubbles
When The Going Gets Tough	Plakton, Karen, Towns Fish, Spongebob, Patrick, Sandy, Mr. Krabs,
[Just A] Simple Sponge	Spongebob, Chorus of Sponges, Mr. Krabs
Daddy Knows Best	Mr. Krabs, Pearl, Electric Skates, Spongebob
Hero Is My Middle Name	Spongebob, Patrick, Sandy, and Jellyfish
Super Sea Star Savior	Sardines, Patrick, Sandy, Spongebob
Bikini Bottom Boogie	Electric Skates, Pearl, Towns Fish
I'm Not A Loser	Squidward, Sea Anemones
Chop To The Top	Sandy, Spongebob, and Rocks
Simple Sponge (Reprise)	Spongebob
Best Day Ever	Towns Fish, Spongebob, Gary, Patrick, Squidward, Sandy, Mr. Krabs, Pearl, Electric Skates
Finale: Bikini Bottom Day	Full Cast

UNIVERSITY STUDENT BIOS

ALEXA SHAHEEN (Sandy) is excited to be in her first production with Youth Theatre through the University of Utah. A native Oregonian in her second year at the U in the Musical Theatre Program, Alexa's previous credits include Rita in *White Christmas* (Regalo), Minnie in *Smoke and Mirrors* (Lagoon), and The Witch in *Séance* (Lagoon). She has endless gratitude for her family, friends, classmates, and professors. Go Utes!

ANDY LUO (Larry the Lobster), a freshman at the University of Utah's Actor Training Program, found his love for acting in Kanab, Utah, and has ventured to Salt Lake City to refine his skills. Honored to be part of *SpongeBob the Musical*, his enthusiasm fuels his ambition to become a professional actor or teacher.

ERIN DICKES (Mayor) is a sophomore in the Film and Media Arts Program, and she is also pursuing a Theatre minor. Her recent roles include Annie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun* (Palisade High School) and Mrs. White in *Clue* (Palisade High School). This is her second year performing with Youth Theatre at the U, and she is very excited to be part of it again this year with her favorite musical.

HARRISON TIMM (Plankton) is a Second Year student in the Actor Training Program. Originally from Moorhead, Minnesota, he is happy to be studying at the U! Harrison has performed as Horton The Elephant in *Seussical* and as an Environmental/Mariner in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. He thanks his friends and family back home, along with the people he's met in Utah for their support.

JACK ANDERSON (SpongeBob) is a sophomore in the Musical Theatre Program from Santa Clarita, California. Recent roles include a Swing in *Cabaret* (Babcock), a Swing for *In Pieces: A New Musical* (Babcock), and Michael Hobbs in *Elf: The Musical* (Canyon Theatre Guild). He thanks his family and friends for their love and support over the years.

LAURA HERSCOVICI (Karen) is a junior double majoring in musical theatre and educational psychology. Previous University of Utah credits include *The Lightning*

Thief (Swing), *The Sweet Science of Bruising* (u/s Emily/Nancy/Ensemble), and *Matilda* (Acrobat). She thanks her family and friends for their support.

LAUREN CARN (Squidward) is a Junior in the Theatre Teaching program and excited to be back on stage! Recent directing credits include *The Verge* (Sallie Bingham Grant), *Moana Jr.* (Studio Kids), *Bag of Flour* (New Plays Workshop), and Assistant Directing *The Lightning Thief* (Babcock, A. Harbold), and *Elephant and Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* (Salt Lake Acting Company, P. Caywood). Lauren currently teaches with Studio Kids Music, Youth Theatre at the U, Pioneer Theatre Company's educational outreach programs, and at Uintah Elementary as a BTSALP Drama Fellow. She is a Utah Flagship, BTSALP Endowed Fellowship, and Promising Playwright scholarship recipient.

RYAN TOPF (Old Man Jenkins) is a freshman in the Computer Science and Actor Training Programs from College Station, Texas. Making his U of U theatrical debut in *SpongeBob The Musical*, Ryan has worked extensively with the Theatre Company of Bryan-College Station. His past roles include Race in *Newsies*, Carlos in *Descendants*, and Grandma in *The Addams Family*. He thanks his mom for supporting his academic and artistic pursuits.

SAMANTA CUALLO (Electric Skates) is a Sophomore in the Musical Theatre Program from Portland, Oregon. She has appeared on stage in productions of *Les Misérables* as Fantine and as Mona in *Chicago*. She is excited to be part of this project and thanks her parents for their support.

TALIA THORPE (Patrick Star) is a Sophomore in the Musical Theatre Program at the University of Utah. From Denver, Colorado, she attended Denver School of the Arts for seven years, performing in *A Chorus Line* as Val, *9 to 5* as Judy Bernly, and *Shrek the Musical* in the Ensemble. She is stoked to be in her first YTU production!

TYLER SHAW (Mr. Krabs) was born in San Diego, California. He is a sophomore in the Actor Training Program. His recent role includes Jacob in *Three Doors* (Studio 115). Prior to joining the U, Tyler played Bill Austin in *Mamma Mia*. He thanks his parents and siblings for their support in his theatrical endeavors.

YOUTH THEATRE STUDENT BIOS

ALICE ST CLAIRE (Mayor's Child)

After hundreds of listens to the original *SpongeBob the Musical* soundtrack, it was a great honor for Alice to be a part of the cast in a local production. Her second show with Youth Theatre is certainly going to be the most memorable.

ALTHEA HEDGES (Krabby Patty)

Althea loved howling at the moon as a werewolf in *We are Monsters* and was also in *The Claw* with Youth Theatre. She is looking forward to performing in front of her friends on the Kingsbury Hall stage.

AMELIA FEHLBERG (Town Fish)

This is Amelia's second show with Youth Theatre. She loves the energy of the Youth Theatre process and wishes all the best to her fellow cast members.

ANNIE MAUTZ (Electric Skate)

Annie is excited to be joining YTU again in the Bikini Bottom for *The SpongeBob Musical*. Having been with YTU since age 6 and played the role of Matilda in YTU's 2021 production, Annie participates in high school theatre and is a member of the Youth Theatre Conservatory.

CAMERON PARKE (Perch Perkins)

This is Cameron's 7th year with YTU, and he's excited to be performing with them once again. His hobbies include theatre, singing, and playing the bass.

CLAIRE MAUTZ (Ms. Puff)

Claire has been performing with YTU since 2018 and is currently a senior. This is a bittersweet production for Claire, as she ends her time with YTU in the Bikini Bottom. She played the role of Cinderella in *Into the Woods* and is a four-year member of the Youth Theatre Conservatory.

DELLA RAE CHALVERUS (BFF! Letter)

Della is excited to be in *SpongeBob* to learn new parts and dances. She looks forward to opening night and will be sad when it's over!



FINCH BLACK (LOLA) (BFF! Letter)

Excited to be a part of the show, Finch finds joy and fulfillment in performing. Having been in *Seussical*, *The Claw*, *Bots*, *High School Musical 2X*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Finch treasures the friendships made during rehearsals.

ISLA VILLAR (BFF! Letter)

This is Isla's 4th show, having been in *Raya and The Last Dragon*, *Hercules*, and *Shrek Jr. SpongeBob* is one of her favorite musicals, and she's thrilled to be part of this production.

JUDSON SMITH (French Narrator Understudy)

Judson is thrilled to be in *SpongeBob*! He hopes you all have as much fun watching the show as he had being in it.

KENDRA HALL (Sardine)

Kendra is super excited to be part of *SpongeBob*. She enjoys acting with some of her best friends and is thankful for the support from her parents and the cast and crew.

MORGAN SCHMUTZ (Sardine)

Morgan loves to do theatre and has been with Youth Theatre at the U for 7 years. She has had so much fun doing this show and loves everyone in the cast.

NOAH ENGAR (Town Fish & Stage Manager)

Noah has enjoyed working with talented individuals and finds the show's direction under Penny to be exceptional. He has worked with Ballet West and is currently a member of the Youth Theatre Conservatory.

NORA BARTEL (Sardine)

Performing with YTU since she was 2, Nora is now a proud member of the Youth Theatre Conservatory. She has been part of several YTU productions and is excited for *SpongeBob*, a long-time favorite.

PRESLEY CAYWOOD (Pearl Krabs)

Presley has been doing Youth Theatre since age 2 and is a member of the

Youth Theatre Conservatory. She is grateful for the support from her friends and family during this production.

SAMANTHA YRUNGARAY (Townfish)

Sam has enjoyed growing closer to the energetic and talented cast. With several musicals and plays under her belt, her favorite being *Into the Woods*, she cherishes the experiences gained.

SCARLET HEDGES (Townfish)

Scarlet has performed in many plays, including as Winnie the Pooh and The Sun in *We are Stars*. Currently a student at Salt Lake Arts Academy, Scarlet loves theatre.

SLOAN JORDAN (Gary the Snail)

Sloan, portraying Gary the snail, has cherished every second of rehearsals. With four years of theatre experience, she looks forward to more Youth Theatre productions.

STELLA GRACE ENSOR (The computer chip)

Excited for *SpongeBob the Musical*, Stella is thrilled to have speaking parts and enjoys learning the dances. She has been part of several Youth Theatre productions and thanks her brother PJ for his support.

VIVIENE D. DAVIS (BFF! Letter)

A talented actress and vocalist, Vivienne has been part of productions with the University of Utah, Youth Theatre. Her credits include *Wendy's Tale*, *Matilda*, *Winnie The Pooh*, and recently *Looks like Pretty* by Elyzabeth Gregory Wilder, and *Seussical*.

YOUTH THEATRE STUDENT BIOS SAND DOLLAR AND CORAL CASTS

AVELINE SAKRISON (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Avie has been participating in YTU since Kindergarten and loves performing. She says that taking on the role of a character helps bring out her fearless

side. Most recently, she enjoyed playing a citizen of Whoville in YTU's production of *Seussical*.

CAMILLA STEWART (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Camilla loves singing, dancing, and performing. She is so excited to be a part of *SpongeBob*.

CHARLOTTE HOLCOMBE (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Charlotte loves participating in YTU. This is her third performance with the company, having been in the summer program, *BOTS*, and now *SpongeBob*.

CHARLOTTE MACHOL (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Charlotte loves to sing, dance, and bring drama to the world. She is passionate about the arts and loves to draw. This is her third musical and fifth year studying drama.

CHERITH JOY CUMMING (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Cherith has loved acting for as long as she can remember. Each summer, she attends theatre camp, and in her recent school play, she was a Director. She aspires to one day be the Captain of an Improv Team.

CLEMENTINE WILSON-ERESUMA (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Clementine revels in the camaraderie shared with her fellow actors. She eagerly embraces each aspect of the production, from the costumes to the transformative makeup. Dancing under black lights adorned in a sponge fills her with excitement!

DAISY HARRIS (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

This is Daisy's first theatrical performance, and she is so excited to show her hard work. She hopes to be a dancer when she grows up and is looking for opportunities to get comfortable on stage.

DESMOND FEHLBERG (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Desmond has been involved in Youth Theatre for several years now. He loves being involved in anything Ms. Penny directs and is looking forward to future productions!

DESMOND STEFFENS (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Desmond is thrilled to be back on the Kingsbury stage. He previously appeared in *Seussical the Musical*, *Bots*, and *Tweet* as part of the Youth Theatre program.

ELISE BOBICK (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

After an exciting experience in Youth Theatre at the U production of *Bots*, Elise is excited for *SpongeBob* to be her second theatre production. Elise has previously focused much of her time on ballet. Away from the theatre, Elise loves gymnastics, baking, and art.

EMILY CHAN (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Emily is brimming with excitement to be a part of this production, as this is the biggest show she's been in! She played Shawn in the fall U Youth Theatre production of *Bots* and dreams of pursuing a career in musical theatre.

ESME RIVKIN (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

A 5th grader at Salt Lake Arts Academy, Esme has been a part of YU for three years. He enjoys playing the violin and engaging in musical theatre.

FERN LIESL GILILLAND (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Fern is super excited to perform in her debut roles as a rock and a bubble in *SpongeBob*! At 7 years old, she loves to draw, do gymnastics, and rock out to Taylor Swift songs.

GRETCHEN HENDERSON (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Gretchen LOVES to sing, dance, act and is passionate about theatre. *SpongeBob* marks her 7th performance with the University of Utah Youth Theatre Program.

HARPER KRONGARD (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

This is Harper's second performance with Youth Theatre. She is excited to be a part of the show because she really loves acting and dancing.

JULIETTE BOBICK (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

SpongeBob marks Juliette's eleventh Youth Theatre production. She enjoys horseback riding, cooking, climbing, and tumbling. She also hopes one day to perform on Broadway.

KATE AVERETT (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Kate loves being part of a production and enjoys singing. Her first full-length performance was *Seussical the Musical* in 2023, and she's excited to continue her journey in Youth Theatre at the U!

KINSEY KRONGARD (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

This is Kinsey's second performance with the Youth Theatre Program. Kinsey is excited to be a part of this show because it's a fun story.

LILA SHEPARD (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

"Once upon a time I was a shy young thing, Could barely walk and talk so much as dance and sing. But let me hit that stage, I wanna take my bow, 'Cause mama, I'm a big girl now!"

LUA BIRDWELL (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Lua is thrilled to be performing in her first play with the University of Utah Youth Theatre Program. She has performed in Idaho in a production called *Go West* and in Utah at Wasatch Elementary in the musical *We Are Monsters*. Her favorite *SpongeBob* songs are "Simple Sponge" and "Chop to the Top."

MILÁ LAMALFA (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Milá is best known for her joyful personality and kind disposition. Audiences will delight in her debut performance in the chorus of *SpongeBob the Musical*. Look for Milá's name as the writer, director, and star in theatre produced for home audiences as well as performances in future Theatre School for Youth shows for the public.

MOLLY CUNNINGHAM (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Molly was first introduced to acting through Youth Theatre Summer Camp last year and she instantly fell in love. She's excited to share her love for acting and singing in her first production with *SpongeBob*.

OLIVER WILLIAMS (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Oliver has been a part of many theatre productions at The McGillis School and has participated in the Utah Shakespeare Festival theatre camp in Cedar City. This is his first production with the University of Utah Youth Theatre. Oliver is thrilled to be a part of a cast of this size and learn more about all of the small aspects of live theatre.

OSCAR BATEMAN-RAPIER (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Oscar is in 5th grade at Salt Lake Arts Academy and has been going to Youth Theatre since kindergarten.

ROI OREN (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Roi loves singing and dancing with all the other kids. He's super happy to be on stage and shine.

RUBY BUTTERWORTH-WEGNER (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Ruby is delighted to be returning to the stage with Youth Theatre at the U after an exciting summer session where she played Frog 1 in YTU's *A Year With Frog and Toad*. Other credits include *Wacky Cat* in *The Aristocats* at Uintah Elementary.

RUBY WOFFINDEN (Cowboy Fish, Jellyfish, and Sponge)

Ruby is excited to be part of a group of kids and young adults bringing *SpongeBob* and friends to life through song and dance. This is her first experience in theatre.

WILL BAKER (Rock, Bubbles, and Sponge)

Will is looking forward to being a part of this amazing show with his friends! He is really looking forward to the BFF song! He has been a part of many Youth Theatre productions including *Seussical*, *Bots*, *Claw*, *Tweet*, *Iver the Hedge*, *Teen Titans*, and *The Day the Crayons Quit*.

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

ALLIE STUBBS (Costume Coordinator) is a Junior in the Theatre Teaching BFA at the University of Utah. A member of the Theatre Teaching Students' Couture and the social media committee, Allie recently worked as a dresser on *The Lighting Thief* in the fall of 2023. She thanks the incredible cast and crew for a wonderful experience.

ELLA MEI (Associate Choreographer) is thrilled to be choreographing and performing in her first show at the U! A sophomore in the Musical Theatre Program and an assistant teacher for YTU, some of her favorite credits include *R&H Cinderella* (Gabrielle) and *Grease* (Ensemble). Ella thanks her family, friends, professors, and Penny for their support and hopes you enjoy your visit to Bikini Bottom.

JORDAN PETERSEN (Ensemble Teacher) is a freshman in the Theatre Teaching Program, delighted to see the show take shape. Her recent performances include Rapunzel in *Into the Woods* (West Valley Arts) and Katherine Plumber in *Newsies* (Centerpoint Theatre). A graduate of Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts, her credits include Kristine Ulrich in *A Chorus Line* and Beth March in *Little Women*, earning the Best Supporting Actress award at the Utah High School Musical Theatre Awards (2019).

JULIA WITESMAN (Stage Manager and Production Manager) is excited to be part of *The SpongeBob Musical* team. A junior in the Stage Management program, she has been stage managing for six years and enjoys every moment. Her recent work at the U includes *The Lightning Thief* (Production Manager), *The Tempest* (Production Manager), *Cabaret* (1st Assistant Stage Manager), and *The Thanksgiving Play* (Stage Manager). Julia is a recipient of the Christine Macken Memorial Scholarship and invites you to enjoy the show!

MARIA JENSEN (Assistant Prop Designer) is a sophomore from Farmington, Utah, in the Theatre Teaching BFA program. She is also minoring in Drawing and working towards qualifications to teach both visual and

performing arts. This summer, she was a teaching assistant for the Youth Theatre at the U summer sessions. Maria is passionate about innovative Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) and is honored to be part of this production. She extends her gratitude to her fellow teaching artists for creating an inspiring community. She is a recipient of the Maggie DeSpain & Council for Investments in Education Scholarships. Visit her at galleryofaneducator.com.

MICHELLE PRINCE (Assistant Director) is a junior at the University of Utah, majoring in Theatre Teaching BFA and minoring in Spanish Teaching. Currently serving as the President of the Theatre Teaching Students' Coterie, Michelle is also the Assistant Director for the Heralders Children's Choir in Salt Lake City. Her past creative contributions include Assistant Choreographer for *Seussical*. Michelle is a proud recipient of the Transfer 2 U Scholarship, Theatre Scholarship, and the BTSALP Fellowship.

SARA CLARK (Lighting Designer) is a senior in the Performing Arts Design Program, graduating in May. Sara aspires to design for local theatres and embark on a career in tech theatre education after graduation. Her lighting designs include *The Lightning Thief* (Babcock), *As You Like It* (Studio 115), and *Frozen Jr.* (Backstage Performing Arts). Scenic designs include *Dancing At Lughnasa* (Studio 115), *Finding Nemo Jr.* (Backstage Performing Arts), and *Curiouser* (Backstage Performing Arts).

SIERRA LOERTSCHER (2nd Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior pursuing a BFA in Stage Management. Beginning her theatre journey at Taylorsville High School in various roles, she has continued at the U as backstage crew for YU's *Seussical* and a Production Assistant for *Town Hall*. Recently, she has been the Stage Manager for Sandbox Theatre Company's productions and is working on *Joseph..Dreamcoat* for the upcoming summer. Sierra also works with Salt Lake County Arts and Culture and the Utah First Credit Union Amphitheatre.

PENELOPE CAYWOOD (Director/Choreographer) is delighted to be working with this incredible cast. Past directing projects include *Yoga Play* at Salt Lake Acting Company, the World Premiere of *Fremont Junior High is NOT doing Oklahoma* (Good Company Theatre), *Somewhere: A Primer for*

the End of Days (U Theatre Studio 115), and *The Book Club Play* (U Theatre Babcock). Past Theatre for Young Audience directing credits at Salt Lake Acting Company include *Elephant and Piggie: We are in a Play*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *Pete the Cat*, *Pinkalicious*, *The True Story of The Three Little Pigs*, *Diary of a Worm*, *a Spider, and a Fly*, *Art Dog*, *Cat in the Hat*, *Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type*, *How I Became a Pirate*, and *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. Penelope is an adjunct assistant professor for Theatre Teaching and the Artistic Director for Youth Theatre at the U. Youth Theatre provides in and out-of-school programs for youth ages 5 - 18, as well as multiple residencies and professional development workshops for classroom teachers. In collaboration with Youth Theatre's internationally recognized and nationally award-winning high school Conservatory, Penelope devises new work every year. Penelope is a board member for both the Utah Advisory Council of Theatre Teachers and the American Alliance for Theatre and Education. She is also a 2022 Performing Arts Fellow through the Utah Department of Arts & Museums.

ZOE SEARE (Makeup Designer) is currently a sophomore in the Theatre Teaching BFA program at the University of Utah. Previous roles include Margaret in *Quilters* and Featured Singer in *Performing with the Pros: Jessica Vosk*. This is her first role behind-the-scenes as an assistant director and she couldn't be more excited! She enjoys teaching and working with kids and teaches every summer at the Broadway Vista Kids summer camps. Zoe would like to thank her parents for always being her biggest supporters!



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OCEAN FILIBUSTER

In partnership with the Global Change and Sustainability Center, Sustainability Office, and Center for Health Ethics, Arts and Humanities

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